

# PLANNING FROM THE HEART

INSPIRATIONAL STORIES, NEWS AND CHARITABLE GIVING STRATEGIES



Carol Mulder

## CONTINUING A LEGACY OF FAITH

Carol Mulder's mother, Marie White, passed away five years ago. Marie left a larger portion of her estate to Carol because she was the only one of her siblings still practicing the Catholic faith. "Before she died, she told me, 'If I give you extra money now, I want to make sure that you return that to the Church as you can,'" Carol says.

Marie was heavily involved with Risen Christ Catholic Community from the beginning of its formation, and Carol soon joined in its parish life with her mother. Carol also followed her mother's footsteps in accounting. Marie helped with the church's bookkeeping until a year before her death at the age of 92.

"My mom was amazing and giving. She was so kind! She gave me my work ethic," Carol says. After attending a seminar for estate planning at Risen Christ, Carol decided it was time to make her will and bequeath 20 percent of her retirement funds to Risen Christ. "I'm leaving the money to them specifically for the upkeep of the building. I've been on the finance council for years, and I know how important it is to have money for the maintenance and repair of the building."

The community and friendships at Risen Christ are important to Carol, and her love of the parish is something that she shared with her mother. Carol still sits in the

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## CONTINUING A LEGACY OF FAITH

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same spot each Mass, where she and her mother used to sit together. “It’s where I go to regain my peace and get my center back. Risen Christ is my family, and we’re so close-knit. Monsignor da Silva is awesome; he’s the glue that holds our family together.”

Carol is thrilled to be able to give to her church in honor of her mother. “It’s a privilege to be able to give,” she says.

You, too, can make a gift to support the Church’s important work and Catholic mission after your lifetime. To learn more about your options, please contact Margaret Hampton at (208) 342-1311, Ext. 5139, or [mhampton@rcdb.org](mailto:mhampton@rcdb.org).

# REAP THE TRUE REWARDS OF YOUR IRA

For years, you’ve faithfully saved for retirement. However, what once worked in your favor—putting money into your IRA and enjoying tax savings—will change when you begin withdrawing funds. That’s because you pay income taxes on the amount you withdraw from your IRA.

### 3 Solutions Based Upon Your Age

- 1. No matter your age**, you can designate the Idaho Catholic Foundation as the beneficiary of all or a percentage of your IRA. Follow these simple steps to complete your gift:
  - Contact your IRA administrator for a change-of-beneficiary form, or simply download a form from your provider’s website.
  - Name the Foundation and the gift percentage. Return the form to your administrator.
  - Let us know! We want to ensure that your charitable intent is carried out.
- 2. If you’re at least 59½**, you can take a distribution and then make a gift from your IRA without penalty. If you itemize your deductions, you can take a charitable deduction for the amount of your gift.
- 3. If you’re 70½ or older**, you can give any amount up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to the Church or another qualified charitable organization without having to pay income taxes on the gift.

### Did You Know?

Federal income taxes can be as high as 37 percent on retirement plan assets. When you leave them to the Church, we receive 100 percent.





# ENCOURAGING THE GENEROUS HEART OF A CHILD

Much of what we teach our young grandchildren is accomplished by setting good examples. One of these examples may be showing them how to give back. It is the firsthand experience that leaves a lasting impression.

Nurturing young children's natural inclination toward helping others can also build their self-esteem, reinforce the joys of giving, and teach the importance of community and financial responsibility.

When mentoring your grandchildren through the giving process, consider the following:

- Discuss the importance of giving and how good it feels to help others.
- Together, visit charities that you're considering supporting. This lets your grandchildren see firsthand whom they'll be benefiting.
- Help grandchildren learn about money with an allowance to be divided three ways: one to spend, one to save and one to be given to a charity of their choice.
- Allow them to choose an organization or program to benefit. You may be pleasantly surprised by the sensitivity of their selections.

- At regular intervals—perhaps yearly—discuss how their donations were used and ask if they wish to benefit the same charity or another one.
- Share your grandchildren's zeal by matching their gifts to their selected organizations.

"How important grandparents are for family life, for passing on the human and religious heritage which is so essential for each and every society!"

—Pope Francis

## Good Reads

Here are a few of our favorite books to share with children:

- *The Giving Book: Open the Door to a Lifetime of Giving* by Ellen Sabin
- *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein
- *The Giving Box: Create a Tradition of Giving With Your Children* by Fred Rogers

# PROTECT THOSE WHO MATTER MOST TO YOU

Think for a moment about everything you care deeply about: your faith, your family, your friends and organizations such as the Church. Now think about everything you own: bank accounts, real estate, stocks, retirement plans, life insurance, antiques and jewelry.

When you're gone, will the things you own go to the people and causes you love?

If you don't have an estate plan, state law will decide how your property is distributed, and those you care about could wind up with only some—or none—of your assets.

An estate plan is like a guide for your family—a map of your passions that helps your loved ones know what to do in the weeks and months after you're gone. A Catholic estate plan that reflects your faith and values may include:

- Catholic medical directive
- Sacramental wishes statement
- Catholic legacy will
- Planned gift to the Catholic Church

## Your Next Steps

You don't have to do it alone. (In fact, you shouldn't.) An estate planning attorney will help ensure that your documents are in order and your family is cared for. You need someone who understands state and federal laws, and someone who can help translate your wishes.



## To Prepare for the Meeting

1. Make a list of your major assets. This should include real estate, stocks, retirement plans, life insurance, bank accounts, certificates of deposit, art, antiques and jewelry.
2. Consider everyone you wish to benefit. If you are thinking about including a gift to the Church, we would be happy to help you. We can provide official legal wording for your will or discuss how your gift will further our Catholic mission. We would also love the opportunity to thank you for your gift.



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